E-UN-13

REPORT

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS

OF

THE FIRST GENERAL MEETING

OF THE

SUBSCRIBERS

TO THE

ORIENTAL TRANSLATION FUND,

WITH

THE PROSPECTUS,

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE,

AND

REGULATIONS.

MDCCCXXVIII.

Serfojee Rajah. 1830

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PROSPECTUS

OF A

Plan for translating and publishing such interesting and valuable Works on Eastern History, Science, and Belles-Lettres as are still in MS. in the Libraries of the Universities, the British Museum, and the East-India House, and in other Collections, in Asia and Africa as well as in Europe; and for providing Funds to carry this object into execution.

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1. THE extensive and valuable collections of Oriental MSS. which are deposited in our public and private libraries, have long attracted the attention of the learned of this and other countries; and it has been suggested that some means, offering a reasonable prospect of success, may be devised, by which the public may be put in possession of all that is valuable in Eastern literature, and an opportunity be presented for shewing that this country is not at present backward in contributing to the advancement of Oriental learning, in which she has long held the foremost rank. The interesting relations, moreover, in which this country stands with the East, affording as they do the best opportunities for carrying such a project into effect, and at the same time promising both to England and its Eastern possessions the most beneficial results, may be mentioned as additional motives for engaging in such an undertaking.

2. The advantages likely to be derived from a more extensive cultivation of Oriental literature in this country may be considered as applicable to Biblical Criticism, Ecclesiastical and General History, Biography, Belles-Lettres, the Arts and Sciences, and Geography.

3. With reference to Biblical Criticism and Ecclesiastical History, we know that our Scriptures, particularly those of the Old Testament, abound in modes of expression, and allusions to customs, in many cases imperfectly understood in Europe, but still prevailing in the East. That light confessedly derived from the Arabic and other sister dialects of the Hebrew, has been thrown on the text of Scripture by the Rabbinical and other commentators, no one will deny; yet volumes on Arabic Grammar, Rhetoric, and the more ancient productions of the Arabian poets, which approach most nearly in style and sentiments to some parts of the Hebrew Bible, still lie in MS. in our libraries, either entirely neglected, or at best accessible to few.

4. In the Syriac language, which approximates still nearer

than the Arabic to the Hebrew in its form and modes of expression, there are in our libraries unpublished Grammars and Dictionaries, and even Commentaries on the Scriptures, written by the Bishops and other learned members of the Oriental churches, together with MS. works of the greatest value to Divines, on Ecclesiastical History and Divinity, composed by the fathers of the Syrian and Arabian churches. The collection also of the late Mr. Rich, now placed in the British Museum by the liberality of Parliament, contains perhaps the most valuable MSS. of the Syriac Scriptures now in existence; and it is of the greatest importance to Biblical criticism that a collation of them should be made and published.

5. Perhaps no people possess more extensive stores of History, Biography, and Polite Literature, than the Arabs and Persians. The accounts which their historical and biographical works contain of their own and the surrounding countries, are necessarily the principal sources from which information can be obtained relative to the history of those regions, and of the extraordinary persons to whom they have given birth. Their histories of the Crusades in particular, which furnish the most authentic details on this interesting subject, will always amuse and instruct the general reader, while they furnish materials of the greatest importance to the historian. In Polite Literature, and especially in works of fiction, they have perhaps never been excelled, and in studying such of their works in Belles-Lettres as have been already printed in any European language, regret must be felt that but few of these books, which are so well calculated to afford us pleasure, have been translated.

6. Whatever may be our present superiority over Asia in the arts and sciences, it cannot be uninteresting to the inquiring mind to recur to the sources from whence we derived the first elements of our knowledge. In this respect Asia must be recognized as the elder sister and instructress of Europe; and although the hordes of barbarians, which poured forth like a torrent from her north-western regions, effectually extinguished the light which she at first imparted, yet we are indebted to the Mohammedan courts of Cordova, Grenada, and Seville, for its restoration, as it is to them that Europe owes the rudiments of many of her now highly cultivated arts and sciences.

7. From Asiatic works on the Mathematics and Medicine perhaps much light is not now to be expected. To trace the progress of these sciences, however, under the Caliphat, when science had declined among the Greeks, cannot be uninteresting to the philosopher. And as many of the most celebrated of the Greek authors were translated into Arabic, under the patronage of the court of Bagdad, it is not improbable that some long-lost Greek works may be discovered in an Arabian dress, as was the case with the treatise on Conic Sections by

Apollonius Rhodius, brought to Europe by Golius, and translated by Halley.

8. From the mercantile character of the Arabs, foreign countries were explored, and commercial establishments formed by them, at an early period of their history; and it is anticipated that accounts of their travels may be discovered, not less interesting than those of Ibn Batuta, noticed by Mr. Burckhardt, and of which some specimens have been published by Kosegarten and Apetz, or of the two Mohammedans who visited India and China in the ninth century, translated and published by the learned Renaudot.

9. But while the literature of the East in general is highly worthy of our notice, that of British India has an especial claim to our regard. The possession of a more intimate acquaintance with the History, Geography, Statistics, Laws, and Usages of that portion of our Empire, must be productive of good both to the governors and the governed; and to procure means for obtaining information on these subjects is one of the principal designs of this Prospectus.

10. The object proposed is, to publish, free of expense to the Authors, translations of the whole or parts of such works in the Oriental languages as the Oriental Translation Committee shall approve. These translations are to be generally accompanied by the original texts printed separately, and such illustrations as may be considered necessary. By the publication of the original text it is intended to multiply copies of such works as are scarce, and to furnish students at a moderate expense with correct copies of the best Asiatic works, to which they might not otherwise have access.

11. It is not intended to confine the operations of the Committee to works in the Arabic, Persian, and Syriac languages; it is their intention to translate and publish standard and interesting works in Sanscrit, Chinese, Pali, Cingalese, and Burmese; in the languages of Thibet, Tartary, and Turkey; in the Malayan, and other dialects of the Eastern Archipelago; and in the numerous dialects of Hindustan, and the southern peninsula of India.

12. It cannot be expected that the publication of Oriental texts and translations can be effected to any considerable extent, by the efforts of individuals, for none but a public body can command the funds, or furnish the literary means necessary for such an undertaking. The Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland, which was instituted for the advancement of Oriental literature, is the only Institution in this country to which the public can look with any prospect of success for the accomplishment of such a project; and the Council of that Society have expressed their willingness to co-operate in the execution of the plan which it is the object of this Prospectus to make known. They have subscribed largely from their funds; have recommended a Committee,

consisting of individuals well known for their zeal and attainments in Eastern literature, to superintend the editing, translating, and printing of the works that are to be published; and have granted the use of their house for the transaction of the business of the Committee:—thus affording the best proofs of their readiness to promote the proposed object, and the strongest guarantee to the public that such works as may be recommended for publication will be executed in a manner that will render them worthy of the patronage that is now solicited.

13. For the purpose of directing the attention of Scholars to the literature of the East, and encouraging translations, the Oriental Translation Committee will give annually, for such works or portions of works as they consider deserving of distinction, four rewards in money, in sums of from £50 to £100 each, and four gold medals of the value of fifteen guineas each, inscribed with the names of the individuals to whom they are presented. Translators whose works are approved, will be eligible to either description of reward, unless they expressly limit their views to the medals. The rewards and medals will be conferred at the Annual Meeting; and success on one occasion will not disqualify for receiving rewards or medals at future anniversaries. Any Member of the Committee who sends a work for approval, whether with a view to obtaining a reward or medal, or merely to have it printed at the Committee's expense, is to cease to act on the Committee until a decision is come to on his work.

14. The Oriental Translation Committee now appeal to the liberality of the public for such pecuniary aid as will enable them to effect the objects proposed in this Prospectus. The sums contributed will be appropriated exclusively to the execution of the plan above detailed, and the accounts will be examined, and a report made annually to the Subscribers of the application of the Funds, by an Auditor, who is to be elected by and from the body of the Subscribers. A report of the progress made in translating and printing during the year will also be made to the Subscribers annually, and notices will be given of such works as the Committee may intend to print at the expense of the Funds contributed by the Subscribers.

15. The terms of subscription are, that every individual or institution subscribing Ten Guineas or upwards annually, will be entitled to one fine-paper copy of every work translated, printed, and published by the Committee, with the name of the individual or institution subscribing printed on the back of the title-page. Individuals or Institutions subscribing Five Guineas annually, will be entitled to any of the works published by the Committee to the amount of their subscription, at half the price paid for them by Non-subscribers. The remaining copies, after a certain number has been given to the Translator or Editor for presentation, will be disposed of by the Committee in such a manner as they

may consider most conducive to their objects, and to the advancement of Oriental literature.

16. The Committee propose to open communications with the Literary Societies, the British Governors and Consuls, and learned individuals in Asia and Africa, for the purpose of procuring scarce and valuable Oriental MSS. They also intend to communicate with the Oriental scholars in this and other countries, for the purpose of bringing to light texts and translations of valuable Oriental works, which may now lie in MS. in public and private libraries; and thus, by every available means, to endeavour to preserve what might otherwise be irrecoverably lost, and to make known original works and translations which might otherwise never meet the public eye.

17. The Committee confidently expect that valuable translations will be obtained from Asia, as they feel assured that many civil and military officers residing there have hitherto been deterred from translating Oriental works by their having no opportunity for publishing the result of their labours in England. As that opportunity is now offered, it is hoped that they will be stimulated by the desire of improvement in the Asiatic languages, and the prospect of acquiring celebrity in Europe, to make translations and avail themselves of the means of publication presented in this Prospectus. For the purpose of obtaining Translations and Subscriptions from Asia, learned men in India, Ceylon, Penang, China, &c. will be invited to form themselves into Corresponding Committees.

18. The willingness already evinced to further this design, induces the Committee to entertain the most lively hopes of success. From the list of distinguished names prefixed and appended to this Prospectus they have the greatest encouragement to proceed, and have every reason to expect that the execution of the plan will be materially assisted by the British Universities.

19. It is requested that those individuals who are willing to become subscribers to the Oriental Translation Fund will send their names and addresses to the Secretary, Mr. William Huttmann, at the house of the Royal Asiatic Society, No. 14, Grafton Street, Bond Street, London; and that they will inform him where their subscriptions will be paid. Subscriptions will also be received by such Houses of Agency as may be nominated by the Corresponding Committees in Asia.

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REPORT

FROM THE

ORIENTAL TRANSLATION COMMITTEE

TO

THE SUBSCRIBERS TO THE ORIENTAL TRANSLATION FUND.

The Members of the Oriental Translation Committee, in meeting the Members of the Royal Family, the Nobility, and Gentlemen who have subscribed funds for the translation and printing of interesting Oriental works, indulge the hope that their preliminary proceedings, and the regulations they will have the honour to submit for consideration, will receive the approbation of this Meeting.

It is their particular wish that the statement they now present to the Subscribers may be received as an account of the proceedings of an institution still in its infancy, and not less requiring time than fostering care to bring it to maturity.

The Members of the Committee being individually interested in Oriental pursuits, and being also highly gratified by the liberal support their plan has received, have a double incentive to exertion, and hope, by their collective endeavours, to add considerably to the stock of information respecting Asia which Europe now possesses.

They feel assured that time alone is required to prove that the generous support of the Subscribers will lead to important results, and that the confidence reposed in their zeal has not been misplaced.

Their arrangements, however, cannot be considered complete, until corresponding Committees have been established in various parts of Asia, and are actively engaged in the execution of the plan developed in the Prospectus.

Under these circumstances, connected with the fact that little more than four months have elapsed since their formation, they are not able to report having made much progress. They feel anxious, however, to make the Subscribers acquainted with what they have done up to the present time, and with their future intentions, prospects, and hopes.

The Committee have great satisfaction in stating that the most liberal support has been afforded to them by the Royal Asiatic Society, not only by their allowing the Committee's business to be transacted in their house, but also by their handsome transfer to the Oriental Translation Fund of the Honourable East-India Company's munificent annual subscription of one hundred guineas.

The English Universities have expressed their favourable disposition towards the undertaking, and received in the most friendly manner the hopes expressed by the Committee, of considerably diminishing the expense of printing by the assistance of the University presses.

Although essentially assisted by the enlightened views of the great literary bodies in England, the attention of the Committee has been directed to obtaining aid from distant quarters also; and they confidently hope that another annual meeting will not pass, without the communication of gratifying accounts from various parts of Asia and Africa.

Considerably within a year, copies of the Prospectus will have been received at the capitals of Turkey, Persia, Egypt, and the Barbary States, and by the numerous Consuls and mercantile firms existing on the eastern and southern shores of the Mediterranean.

The opportunity offered by the intimate connexion of this country with Asia has been eagerly embraced by the Committee, who have sought every means of communicating with Europeans residing even in its most inland countries.

The Presidencies of India will be centres from which Prospectuses will be forwarded to every Indian court, and to the confines of the Punjab, Tibet, and China; every where, it is hoped, awakening among our distant countrymen a desire to become known to the learned in Europe, through the means offered by this Committee.

Intimations of our object will also be forwarded to every mart and settlement of the Eastern ocean, extending to the most distant havens of its Archipelago, and to the coasts of China and Japan.

The various Missionary establishments, whether in India, Palestine, the Caucausus, or the Malayan peninsula, and the enlightened *employés* of the Russian Government, extending along the extensive southern frontier of the Russian empire to the furthest limits of Kamtschatka, will also be made acquainted with our existence and objects.

The majority, however, of these communications have been

addressed to natives of Britain; and it is from them the Committee principally expect co-operation and support, in the attainment of their truly national object.

The principle of these appeals for literary and pecuniary assistance, in common with the rest of their proceedings, requires the sanction of the Subscribers; but the Committee have been obliged to anticipate the confirmation of their acts, to prevent their losing opportunities of communicating with India.

They hope that they will not be considered to have erred, as they have strictly conformed to the spirit of the Prospectus, the approval of which may be inferred from the patronage it has received.

Letters have been addressed to the Governor-General of India, the Governors of Madras, Bombay, Ceylon, Prince of Wales's Island, and Mauritius, and to the Presidents of the Literary Societies at the three Presidencies and Ceylon, proposing the formation of Corresponding Committees, to consist of the principal Oriental scholars residing in or near Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, Columbo, George Town, and Port Louis.

The instructions for these Corresponding Committees, contained in letters of which a specimen is subjoined, although leaving them as uncontrolled as great distance and local differences necessarily require, will, it is hoped, be found to be strictly consonant with the general tenour of the Prospectus.

Letter to the Governor-General of India.

"My Lord:—We trust that we may with confidence address your "Lordship on the subject of the accompanying Prospectus, which "has received the most general approbation in this country, and "promises the most valuable results to Oriental literature.

"Although the Oriental Translation Committee confidently rely on "the abilities and zeal of learned individuals in England, still they "look to their highly gifted countrymen in the East for great and "efficient assistance.

"This expectation, we are convinced, will not be disappointed; "and we address your Lordship, as Governor-General of India, to "solicit your Lordship's powerful aid, in the promotion of the exten-"sive and important objects that are stated in the Prospectus.

"Our views in this letter are directed to the formation of an "efficient Corresponding Committee at Calcutta; and we presume to "request that, in concert with the President of the Asiatic Society "of Bengal, your Lordship will make a selection of persons from "among the Europeans and natives residing within your Lordship's "Government, to constitute that Committee.

"When the Committee is appointed, we shall feel grateful for

"your Lordship's transmitting this letter to them; and we request "that they will guide themselves by the spirit of the Prospectus, of "which a considerable number is sent for distribution by them.

"The Corresponding Committee is requested to make such additions to the Prospectus as local circumstances may render necessary; "and to have them addressed to the persons referred to in the "enclosed list, and to such others as they may consider likely to "promote their views.

"The expense of making those additions and of printing more "Prospectuses (if those sent are not sufficient), as also that of "transcribing translations and procuring their Oriental originals for "the Committee in England, will be defrayed by that Committee, "if, contrary to expectation, the sum collected in Bengal is inadequate to the payment.

"The Corresponding Committee is empowered to add to their "number, to make bye-laws agreeing with the spirit of the Prospectus, to suggest to the Committee in England improved means for "attaining their objects, and to appoint houses of agency to receive "subscriptions. They will also present those rewards or medals "which may be awarded at home to residents in Bengal, and "transmit copies of the works printed by the Committee in England "to subscribers residing in that presidency.

"Their most important duty, however, will be obtaining and "transmitting to the Committee at home translations of Oriental "MSS., accompanied by the original texts.

"It is desirable that a meeting of the Subscribers residing in "Bengal should be held annually in December, to receive a report "from the Corresponding Committee, and to be informed of what "has been done by the Committee in England.—A copy of that "Report should be transmitted to the Committee in London.

"The Oriental Translation Committee hope that the Corresponding "Committee of Calcutta will not limit their views to Europeans, but "will also endeavour to excite qualified natives to furnish translations. They also hope, that should any parts of this letter or of "the Prospectus be considered ambiguous, the Corresponding Committee will interpret them according to their own judgment, without waiting for explanations from Europe.

"We indulge the hope that, under your Lordship's auspices, the "Corresponding Committee will be able to obtain the assistance of "the Native Princes residing in or near your Lordship's Government, "by pointing out to them the advantages that will accrue to the "learned natives in their dominions, from being furnished with "printed texts of scarce and valuable Oriental Manuscripts; and we "trust that your Lordship will promote this desirable object, by permitting the letters, &c. addressed to the Native Princes to be sent "through the Residents at their courts.

"We shall also be grateful for your Lordship's permitting the

" letters of the Corresponding Committee to be delivered free of " postage within your Lordship's Government, and for your Lordship's allowing the communications from the Committee in Calcutta " to the Committee in London to be forwarded through the authorities in England.

" We trust that we may in a few months receive the gratifying " intelligence of the inauguration of the Corresponding Committee, " and of your Lordship and the Asiatic Society of Bengal (which " we have addressed through its president) having displayed a " degree of interest, commensurate with the importance of the " object proposed to your Lordship's notice, and placed under your " Lordship's patronage, &c.

" We have the honour to be, &c.

(*Signed*) " Gore Ouseley,
" G. T. Staunton,
" E. H. East,
" A. Johnston,
" Mark Wilks,
" G. Fitzclarence."

Letter to the President of the Asiatic Society of Bengal.

" Sir :—We have the honour of transmitting to you the duplicate " of a Letter addressed to the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India, requesting his Lordship, in concert with yourself, " to nominate a Committee at Calcutta, to obtain Translations, &c.; " and we take the liberty of suggesting the desirableness of such " members of the General Committee as reside in or near Calcutta " being appointed Members of the Corresponding Committee.

" From the zeal which yourself, and the learned body over which " you preside, display in the cultivation of Oriental literature, we " anticipate with confidence that you will render the most important " assistance in the attainment of our proposed object.

" We have the honour to be, &c."

(*Signed as above.*)

The Committee have great pleasure in informing the Subscribers that they received from Lord William Bentinck, Governor General of India, before his Lordship's departure, the most gratifying assusances of his Lordship's intention to forward their views, to the utmost extent of his power, on his arrival at Calcutta.

Although zeal and efficiency may be confidently expected from all the Committees in Asia, it is impossible not to contemplate with peculiar satisfaction the auspices under which the Corresponding Committee will be formed at Bombay.

Few gentlemen occupying stations of authority and in-

fluence possess such means of effectively assisting the Committee as Sir John Malcolm, whose Oriental learning, and activity in the promotion of knowledge, are brilliant examples for every person, not only under his own, but also under every other Indian Government, to endeavour to imitate.

The attention that the Prospectus and letters will excite in India must, in the opinion of the Committee, create a desire for improvement in the Oriental languages among the junior Civil and Military Officers residing there; and it will be the duty of the Corresponding Committee, to foster that feeling, and transmit to Europe its beneficial results.

After preparing instructions for their Corresponding Committees, the Committee prepared a few regulations for their own government. These regulations will be submitted to you this day for amendment; or, if approved, for confirmation.

The Committee hope that the latitude they have proposed for themselves will only be considered an evidence of their extensive hopes and views, and that the Subscribers, in giving these regulations their sanction, will leave the Committee unshackled, at least for the first year, that they may have the means of ascertaining their power to accomplish the objects for which they were appointed.

Although most of these regulations have been formed on the basis of the original Prospectus, two alterations have been suggested, which it was thought would add considerably to the usefulness and the pecuniary means of the Society:—these are the creation of a second class of subscribers, and the sale of a certain number of each of the works printed at the expense of the Oriental Translation Fund.

As the Subscribers of ten guineas each are entitled gratuitously to a fine-paper copy of every work published by the Committee, it is proposed that an annual subscriber of five guineas shall be entitled to any of the works published by the Committee, to the extent of his subscription, at half the price paid for them by the public; but without having his name printed on the back of the title-page, that distinction being reserved for the first class of Subscribers.

In relation to the second proposal, it is calculated that the difference of expense between an edition of 250 and 500 copies of any book is only about 7 per cent. exclusive of paper: printing the latter number instead of the former, and selling the copies that remained on hand after the Subscribers are furnished with those to which they are entitled, would therefore defray a considerable part of the expense of print-

ing any translation, and thus enable the Committee to print additional works. The following particulars are added, to shew the advantage of printing some copies for sale of such works as the Committee may publish. An edition of 250 copies of a Persian and English work of 450 octavo pages would cost £125, or 10s. per copy; but the second 250 copies might be obtained for £35, or about 2s. 10d. per copy. If the second 250 copies were gradually sold at only 10s. each, the whole expense of printing the work would be ultimately repaid, with the exception of £35, for which sum 250 copies would be obtained by the Subscribers.

This calculation is founded on the supposition that none but really interesting works will be printed, and that there will consequently be a demand for them in England, on the Continent, and among Europeans in Asia. It is also confidently expected that many copies will be bought by learned natives of India, who may be either desirous of learning English or of possessing texts of standard Oriental works, free from the errors which often abound in manuscript copies.

The acting Treasurer has the honour to report to the Subscribers the state of the Society's funds made up to the present day.

The amount of subscriptions is £1,128. 15s., from which is to be deducted the trifling expense of printing and circulating the Prospectus and incidental charges.

If it should receive the approbation of the Subscribers, the annual subscriptions will be considered payable on the 1st of January in each year, the second subscription being reckoned due in January 1829.

As the Secretary will be very much occupied in transacting the business of the Committee, it is hoped that the payment of fifty pounds a year to him, from the 1st of January 1828, will be approved by the Subscribers.

In connexion with the Society's finances, it only remains for the Subscribers to elect from among themselves a Treasurer for the ensuing year, and an Auditor, to report at the next annual meeting the receipts and disbursements of the Oriental Translation Fund for the year that will then terminate.

The Committee, after thus giving an account of their proceedings and of the state of their funds, venture to express a hope that a continuation and increase of support will enable them to extend their operations, in proportion as their views enlarge in the execution of their plan.

It is now the agreeable duty of the Committee to announce to the Subscribers the encouraging prospects which have been created by their munificent support. The prosperous state of their funds, the advantages presented by the English Universities and the Royal Asiatic Society, and the gratuitous aid tendered by many eminent Orientalists, warrants the belief that the Subscribers, in addition to enjoying the honour of fostering an important branch of learning, and rescuing the national character from the charge of neglecting Oriental literature, will annually receive books greatly exceeding their subscriptions in value.

The Committee are desirous to avoid attributing too much effect to their labours; but they feel bound to state, that they know that the circulation of their Prospectus has already stimulated some individuals to undertake translations of Oriental works, and has attracted much attention to Asiatic literature.

The inquiries of the Committee have already brought to light several translations which had long remained unnoticed, and they have received a valuable collection of Oriental MSS. which were colleeted by the late Sir Charles Malet, Bart. during his residence in India, and presented to them by his son, Sir Alexander Malet, Bart., immediately he was informed of their establishment and objects.

Although, in selecting works for publication, the Committee's principal object will be to increase historical and general information, yet, in order to meet the taste of every class of the Subscribers, they have considered it proper to have some works of fiction translated, particularly as the East has furnished many highly interesting specimens of that species of literature, if even it is not the parent country of apologues and romances.

The Committee have great pleasure in announcing that the following works have already been offered to them, and that several of them are nearly ready for the press. In the publication of these works, and of such others as the Committee may obtain or have translated, they pledge themselves to a strict observance of such regulations as you may frame or sanction, and to as great a regard to economy as the expensive nature of copying and printing Oriental works permits.

List of Translations preparing for publication, and which are generally to be accompanied by the Original Texts, and elucidated with Notes.

Class 1st.—Theology and Ethics.

1. The Cural, a work on Ethics, written by Tiruvalluven; translated by Richard Clarke, Esq.

This ancient work, written in the purest style of Tamul poetry, possesses a very high reputation in the whole of Southern India.

2. The Akhlak-e-Naseri of Naser-ud-Din of Tus in Bucharia; translated by the Rev. H. G. Keene, A.M.

This Persian system of Ethics is an elaborate composition, formed on Greek models, and is very highly esteemed in Persia.

3. A Collation of the Syriac MSS. of the New Testament, both Nestorian and Jacobite, that are accessible in England; by the Rev. Professor Lee.

This collation will include the various readings of all the Syriac MSS. of the New Testament in the British Museum, and the Libraries at Oxford, Cambridge, &c.

4. The Didascalia, or Apostolical Constitutions of the Abyssinian Church; translated by T. P. Platt, Esq., A.M.

This ancient Ethiopic work is unknown in Europe, and contains many very curious opinions.

5. The Bustan of Sadi; translated by James Ross, Esq., A.M.

This is a much admired Persian Poem, consisting of Tales, &c. illustrative of moral duties.

Class 2d.—History, Geography, and Travels.

6. The Tareki Afghan; translated by Dr. Bernhard Dorn.

This is a Persian History of the Afghans, who claim to be descended from the Jews. It will be accompanied by an account of the Afghan tribes.

7. The Annals of Elias, Metropolitan of Nisibis; translated by the Rev. Josiah Forshall, A.M.

This Syriac Chronicle contains chronological tables of the principal dynasties of the world, brief memoirs of the Patriarchs of the Nestorian church, and notices of the most remarkable events in the East, from the birth of our Saviour to the beginning of the eleventh century.

8. The Travels of Evlia Effendi; translated by Councillor von Hammer.

This work contains an account in Turkish, of the travels of Evlia in all parts of the Turkish empire, and in Turkestan, &c. in the middle of the seventeenth century.

9. Naima's Annals; translated by the Rev. Dr. Henderson.

This Turkish history comprises the period between 1622 and 1692, and includes accounts of the Turkish invasion of Germany, the sieges of Buda, Vienna, &c.

10. Ibn Khaldun's History of the Berbers; translated by the Rev. Professor Lee.

This rare and valuable Arabic work contains an account of the origin, progress, and decline of the Dynasties which governed the Northern Coast of Africa.

11. The great Geographical Work of Idrisi; translated by the Rev. G. C. Renouard, B.D.

This Arabic work was written A.D. 1163, to explain a large silver globe, made for Roger, King of Sicily, and is divided into the seven climates described by Ptolemy.

12. Ibn Khalikan's Lives of Illustrious Men: translated by Dr. Rosen.

This is a Biographical dictionary, arranged alphabetically, of the most celebrated Arabian historians, poets, warriors, &c., who lived in the seven first centuries of the era of Mahommed, A.D. 700 to A.D. 1400.

13. Makrisis Khîtat, or History and Statistics of Egypt; translated by Abraham Salame.

This Arabic work includes accounts of the conquest of Egypt by the Caliphs, A.D. 640; of the cities, rivers, ancient and modern inhabitants of Egypt, &c.

14. Part of Mirkhond's Ruzet-ul-Suffa; translated by David Shea, Esq.

The part of this Persian work selected for publication is that which contains the History of Persia from Kaiomurs to the death of Alexander the Great.

Class 3d.—Belles-Lettres.

15. Meher va Mushteri; translated by Dr. Bernhard Dorn.

This is a popular Persian poem, which celebrates the friendship and adventures of Meher and Mushteri, the sons of King Shapur and his grand Vizier.

16. Hatim Taë; translated by Duncan Forbes, Esq., A.M.

This is a popular Persian romance, which narrates the seven perilous adventures of Hatim, an Arab chief.

17. Ferhad va Shirin; translated by James Mitchell, Esq.

This Persian poem contains the tale of Ferhad, a celebrated statuary, and Shirin, Princess of Persia. It also includes several curious legends relating to Adam, Mahommed, &c.

REGULATIONS

FOR

THE ORIENTAL TRANSLATION COMMITTEE.

1st. The Committee which is attached to the Royal Asiatic Society for the purpose of selecting and superintending the translation and printing of Oriental works, is to be called the "Oriental Translation Committee."

2d. The object of the Committee is to publish, free of expense to the authors, translations of the whole or parts of works in the Oriental languages, accompanied generally by the original texts, and such illustrations as may be considered necessary. These translations are to be generally printed in English, but in peculiar cases may be printed in Latin or French.

3d. The Committee is empowered to add to its number, to purchase Oriental MSS. or printed books, to present copies of the works printed at the expense of the Oriental Translation Fund to learned Societies and individuals, and to adopt all the means that it may consider to be necessary for executing the plan developed in the Prospectus. No payment, however, exceeding twenty-five pounds, is to be made until approved at two successive Meetings of the Committee.

4th. The Meetings of the Committee will be held as often as the Chairman or Secretary, or any two other Members of it, signing a requisition for that purpose, deem it necessary. All the Members of the Committee resident within one hundred miles of London, are to be summoned to attend each of its Meetings; and five Members, including the Chairman or a Deputy Chairman, and the Secretary, are to constitute a quorum.

5th. The Secretary is charged generally with the business of the Committee, and is to record all the votes of the Committee in a Minute-Book, which every Subscriber has the right of inspecting on application to him.

6th. For the purpose of directing the attenion of scholars to the literature of the East, and encouraging translations, the Committee is empowered to give annually, for such works as it may consider deserving of distinction, four rewards in money, in sums of from £50 to £100 each, and four gold medals of the

value of fifteen guineas each, inscribed with the names of the individuals to whom they are presented. Any Member of the Committee who sends a work for approval, whether to obtain a reward or medal, or merely to have it printed at the expense of the Oriental Translation Fund, is to cease to act on the Committee until the adoption or rejection of his work is decided on.

7th. No work, although prepared for the press at the expense of the Oriental Translation Fund, is to be printed, until the imprimatur of the Chairman or a Deputy Chairman, and at least twelve Members of the Committee, is obtained.

8th. Every individual or institution subscribing ten guineas or upwards annually to the Oriental Translation Fund, will be entitled to one fine-paper copy of every work translated and printed by the Committee, with the name of the individual or institution subscribing printed on the back of the title-page.

Individuals or institutions subscribing five guineas annually, will be entitled to any of the works published by the Committee, to the amount of their subscriptions, at half the price paid for them by Non-subscribers.

9th. A General Meeting of the Subscribers will be held on the first Wednesday in February, May, August, and November; and a Special General Meeting shall be convened by the Secretary at any time it is required in writing by nine Subscribers, the requisition stating the subject that is to be proposed for consideration.

10th. A General Meeting will be held annually on the first Wednesday in May, to which every Subscriber and Member of the Committee resident in the United Kingdom will be summoned. At that meeting Regulations may be proposed or rescinded. The Auditor will report the receipts and disbursements of the past year, and the Secretary report the progress made in the works that have been commenced, and give an account of those that are proposed for publication in the following year. A copy of each of these Reports will be sent to every Subscriber.

At a Meeting *of the* Subscribers *to the* Oriental Translation Fund, *held on Wednesday the 7th of May* 1828, *at the House of the Royal Asiatic Society,*

His Royal Highness Prince Leopold of Saxe Cobourg, in the Chair.

A communication from Mr. Pettigrew was made to the Meeting, expressing His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex's regret that he was prevented by indisposition from taking the Chair, as had been announced in the circular letter by which the Meeting was convened.

The Right Honourable Sir Gore Ouseley, Bart., Chairman of the Oriental Translation Committee, read the Prospectus explanatory of the objects of the Subscribers and Committee, the names of the Patrons and Subscribers, and Lists of the Committee, as originally selected by the Royal Asiatic Society, and as subsequently enlarged by the addition of the most eminent British Orientalists in various parts of the world.

He then read a Report of the Proceedings of the Committee from the date of its nomination to the present time, accompanied by a list of the Translations that have been offered to it for publication.

The Chairman of the Committee then submitted to the consideration of the Subscribers the Regulations which had been prepared, for the government of the Committee, in the administration of the Oriental Translation Fund.

It was then moved by the Right Honourable Lord Viscount Melville, seconded by Sir Edward Hyde East, Bart., M.P., and

Resolved Unanimously,

" That the appointment of the Committee named in " the list submitted to this Meeting be confirmed."

Moved by the Right Honourable Charles Watkin Williams Wynn, M.P., seconded by Sir Edward Kerrison, Bart., M.P., and

Resolved Unanimously,

" That the report of the Committee be adopted, and " their proceedings approved and confirmed."

Moved by the Right Honourable the Earl of Cassilis, seconded by George Watson Taylor, Esq., M.P., and

Resolved Unanimously,

" That the Regulations for the Oriental Translation " Committee be confirmed."

Moved by Sir ALEXANDER JOHNSTON, Knt., seconded by the Right Honourable Sir GORE OUSELEY, Bart., and

Resolved Unanimously,

"THAT the grateful thanks of this Meeting be returned "to his Royal Highness the DUKE of CLARENCE, for the "zealous and efficient manner in which His Royal High-"ness has promoted the establishment of the Oriental "Translation Fund."

Moved by Sir EDWARD KERRISON, Bart., M.P., seconded by Sir J. WATHEN WALLER, Bart., and

Resolved Unanimously,

"THAT Sir HUTTON COOPER, Bart., M.P., be requested "to accept the office of Auditor of the Oriental Trans-"lation Fund for the ensuing year."

Moved by Sir EDWARD HYDE EAST, Bart., M.P., seconded by Sir HUTTON COOPER, Bart., M.P., and

Resolved Unanimously,

"THAT Lieutenant-Colonel FITZCLARENCE be requested "to accept the office of Treasurer to the Oriental Trans-"lation Fund."

Moved by the Right Honourable Earl SPENCER, seconded by the Right Honourable Sir GORE OUSELEY, Bart., and

Resolved Unanimously,

"THAT the most grateful thanks of this Meeting be "given to the Council and Members of the Royal Asiatic "Society, for their liberality in promoting the views of "the Subscribers to the Oriental Translation Fund, by "granting them the use of their house and library, and "by their splendid annual donation of one hundred "guineas."

Moved by Sir J. WATHEN WALLER, Bart., seconded by Lieutenant-Colonel WILLIAM BLACKBURNE, and

Resolved Unanimously,

"THAT an account of this day's proceedings, pre-"ceded by the Prospectus, the Report from the Commit-"tee, and the Regulations, be printed for distribution."

Moved by Admiral Sir CHARLES MORICE POLE, Bart., seconded by the Right Honourable the Earl of CASSILIS, and

Resolved Unanimously,

"THAT the thanks of this Meeting be given to His "Royal Highness the DUKE of SUSSEX, for his kind in-"tention of presiding at this meeting, which was solely "prevented by His Royal Highness's lamented indis-"position."

Moved by the Right Honourable Sir GORE OUSELEY, Bart., seconded by Sir ALEXANDER JOHNSTON, Knt., and

Resolved Unanimously,

"That the cordial thanks of this Meeting be given to "Lieutenant-Colonel FITZCLARENCE, for his great and "successful exertions in favour of the Oriental Transla-"tion Fund."

Moved by the Right Honourable CHARLES WATKIN WILLIAMS WYNN, M.P., seconded by the Right Honourable Sir GORE OUSELEY, Bart., and

Carried by acclamation,

"THAT the Right Honourable Earl SPENCER be added "to the Vice-Patrons of the Oriental Translation Fund."

His Royal Highness having left the Chair, it was moved by the Right Honourable Earl SPENCER, seconded by Lieutenant-Colonel FITZCLARENCE, and

Resolved Unanimously,

"THAT the warmest thanks of this Meeting be given to "His Royal Highness Prince LEOPOLD of SAXE COBURG, "for his able and condescending conduct in the Chair."

WM. HUTTMANN,

Secretary.

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